



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

January 7, 2000

WMD-SSMB

Jesus Diaz
Bureau of Waste Cleanup
Site Investigation Section
FDEP
2600 Blair Stone Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

BUREAU OF WASTE CLEANUP

JAN 12 2000

TECHNICAL REVIEW SECTION

**SUBJ: Final Site-Specific Sampling Plan
Borden Chem./Tenoroc Mine ESI
Auburndale, Polk Co., Florida
EPA # FLD980727432**

Dear Jesus,

Enclosed is a copy of the Final Site Specific Sampling Plan (SSSP) for the Borden Chem./Tenoroc Mine Expanded Site Inspection (ESI).

Background information and history of the site are included in the SSSP. The previous Site Assessment activities at this site included a Preliminary Assessment (PA), Site Inspection (SI) and Site Inspection Prioritization (SIP), however no environmental media samples were collected during any of these events. The previous investigations based the site threat on a "worst case" assumption of site contaminants. Currently, there is no site specific information which documents the presence of contamination.

The goal of the ESI is to document the presence of hazardous substances and determine if any of the pathways have been impacted. However, due to the size of the site (6,000 ac.) and the lack of a well defined source area, a comprehensive ESI may require as many as 100+ samples and a significant amount of funding. Because there is no historical evidence that documents the release of hazardous substances from the site, EPA has decided to proceed with a source documentation phase of the ESI. This will consist of surface soil and sub-surface soil composite samples taken from the backfilled clay settling ponds, tailings area, and the former beneficiation plant area, the most likely source of any contamination. Also a surface soil composite sample will be collected at the existing picnic area. Composite sediment samples will be collected from three on-site lakes. Should the source documentation phase discover contaminant levels of concern in the sources, further investigation of the soil exposure, surface water, groundwater, air, and human food chain pathways may be required.



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EPA realizes that there are many reclaimed phosphate mines located in central Florida. Several of these are listed in CERCLIS (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System) and cannot be removed until data exists that shows that the abandoned phosphate mines are not a threat to human health and the environment. The Borden Chemical / Tenoroc Mine site is currently owned by the State of Florida and operated as the Tenoroc Fish Management Area (TFMA). EPA met with representatives of the TFMA and the FDEP, Bureau of Mine Reclamation on December 15, 1999 to explain EPA's site assessment process, why this site was being investigated and to coordinate the work with an ongoing FDEP watershed re-habilitation study of the area. EPA agreed to proceed with the investigation in a timely manner, as not to interfere with FDEP's current plans for the site. Also, FDEP representatives were advised to consult with their colleagues in the Bureau of Waste Cleanup, Site Investigation Section, to discuss EPA's upcoming investigation.

EPA has requested site access for a three-week block of time between January 31 and February 18, 2000. It is anticipated that the field work will require 3 to 4 days on site. The three week access will allow flexibility in the event of scheduling or weather related problems.

EPA is requesting that you or one of your colleagues from the Bureau of Waste Cleanup be present during the field investigation. Because this site is owned and operated by the State of Florida, it is important to maintain good communication between EPA and FDEP to insure that all relevant issues and concerns are addressed. Any additional FDEP personnel who would like to attend are welcome, but should be aware of the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.120 (Hazardous Waste and Emergency Response Operations).

I will let you know as soon as a final schedule for our field work is determined. Thanks for your continued cooperation with this site.

Sincerely,



Kevin S. Misenheimer
Remedial Project Manager
South Site Management Branch

Enclosure

cc: Jim McGuire, EPA (w/out Enclosure)
Bud Cates, FDEP (w/out Enclosure)
Danon Moxley, TFMA (w/Enclosure)
Gail Sloane, FDEP (w/out Enclosure)